

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A feeding and aspirating tube assembly comprising:
2 a first outer aspirating tube; and
3 a second inner feeding tube;
4 wherein the second inner feeding tube is removably disposed inside the first outer
5 aspirating tube.
- 1 2. The feeding tube assembly of claim 1, wherein the outer tube fits loosely around
2 the inner tube to permit aspiration while the inner tube is disposed inside the outer tube.
- 1 3. The feeding tube assembly of claim 1, wherein in an assembled state, a distal end
2 of the inner tube is in a range from approximately 2 cm to approximately 4 cm from a
3 distal end of the outer tube.
- 1 4. The feeding tube assembly of claim 3, further comprising:
2 at least one feeding tube opening in the inner tube; and
3 wherein the at least one feeding opening is located in a range from approximately
4 ½ cm to approximately 3 cm from the distal end of the outer tube.
- 1 5. The feeding tube assembly of claim 4, further comprising a plurality of feeding
2 tube openings including the at least one feeding tube opening, wherein a most distal one
3 of the feeding tube openings is in a range from approximately 2 cm to approximately 3
4 cm from the distal end of the outer tube.
- 1 6. The feeding tube assembly of claim 4, further comprising a plurality of feeding
2 tube openings including the at least one feeding tube opening, wherein a most proximal
3 one of the feeding tube openings is located in a range from approximately ½ cm to
4 approximately 2 cm from the distal end of the outer tube.

- 1 7. The feeding tube assembly of claim 1, wherein:
2 the outer tube further comprises an external end; and
3 the external end of the outer tube has a plurality of input branches.
- 1 8. The feeding tube assembly of claim 7, wherein the inner tube further comprises an
2 external end having an adapter that seals a selected one of the input branches and
3 provides an input opening of the inner tube external to the selected branch.
- 1 9. The feeding tube assembly of claim 8, wherein the input opening of the inner tube
2 fluidly connects an exterior of the assembly with a rest of the inner tube through the
3 selected branch.
- 1 10. The feeding tube assembly of claim 1, wherein the outer diameter of the inner
2 tube is in a range from approximately 1 mm to approximately 3 mm.
- 1 11. The feeding tube assembly of claim 1, wherein the outer diameter of the outer
2 tube is in a range from approximately 3 mm to approximately 6 mm.
- 1 12. A method of feeding and aspirating comprising:
2 inserting an inner tube through an outer tube;
3 sealing an external end of the inner tube relative an external end of the outer tube;
4 placing the combination inner tube and outer tube in the jejunum of a patient;
5 feeding from externally of the patient through the inner tube to the jejunum of the
6 patient; and
7 aspirating from the jejunum through the outer tube.

1 13. The method of feeding and aspirating of claim 12, wherein:
2 the step of feeding comprises feeding for a first predetermined period of time after
3 an operation;
4 the method of feeding and aspirating further comprises:
5 removing the inner tube from the outer tube after the first predetermined
6 period of time; and
7 feeding through one of the outer tube and another separate feeding tube.

1 14. The method of feeding and aspirating of claim 12 wherein:
2 the step of feeding further comprises feeding for a first predetermined period of
3 time after an operation;
4 the method of feeding and aspirating further comprises:
5 removing the inner tube from the outer tube after the first predetermined
6 period of time; and
7 feeding and aspirating through the outer tube after the first predetermined
8 period of time.